

Principles of Caregiving

Caregiving Fundamentals

**A training program for caregivers,
personal attendants
and direct support professionals.**



**The Arizona Direct Care Curriculum Project
2007**

Principles of Caregiving includes the following modules. Each module consists of a trainer manual, a student manual, and a slide presentation.

Caregiving Fundamentals
Aging and Physical Disabilities Module
Developmental Disabilities Module
Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease Module



**Arizona Direct Care Curriculum Project,
*Principles of Caregiving, 2007.***

Use Policy:

You are free to copy and distribute this material in whole or in part. You may adapt this work and use it for training in your organization. In all instances, you must give attribution to the Arizona Direct Care Curriculum Project, *Principles of Caregiving, 2007.*

You may not sell this work, or portions thereof, for a profit. Use with proper attribution is permitted in training programs that charge a fee for the training.

Acknowledgments

These training manuals were created with guidance from the Arizona Core Curriculum and Expansion Committee to help establish a high-quality training program for direct care and direct support professionals in Arizona. Many individuals and agencies were involved, but special gratitude goes to the Arizona Bridge for Independent Living (ABIL), AIREs, the Foundation for Senior Living, the Children and Family Alliance, the Alzheimer's Association – Desert Southwest Chapter, and Phoenix College. For more information, please visit <http://www.azdes.gov/aaa/directcare.asp>.



The Direct Care Curriculum Project is a partnership between the Arizona Department of Economic Security, the Arizona Department of Health Services, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, and the Core Curriculum and Expansion Committee.

The opinions expressed in this material do not represent the official positions of these agencies.



Preface

The Arizona Direct Care Curriculum Project: The Development of Standardized Direct Care Professional Training in Arizona

The need for home and community-based “caregiving” is one of the most compelling issues of our time. It will affect nearly every family in America. In order to be ready to meet the increasing demand for home and community-based services, Arizona must develop a capable and compassionate workforce of caregivers. We are clearly moving in that direction with the support of Arizona’s policy makers and service providers. We are preparing to meet these challenges by creating tools and resources to assist in developing an adequate supply of qualified and well-trained long-term care workers, including caregivers, personal attendants, and direct support professionals.

In 2002, Arizona passed legislation to increase the wages of these direct care professionals, thereby recognizing the importance of the long-term care workforce. At the same time, the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Caregiver Wages and Workforce Development was established. The purpose of the Committee was to define critical policy concerns and emerging issues regarding long-term care and caregivers. In addition, the committee was to develop cost-effective strategies to promote and encourage caregiver workforce development that would support and strengthen family and informal caregiving as a key component of long-term care.

In 2004, Governor Janet Napolitano appointed the Citizens Work Group on the Long-Term Care Workforce (CWG) to further develop and provide recommendations for improving the quality of the long-term care workforce. The CWG identified guiding principles for the development of an improved and enhanced direct care workforce, to include: 1) promotion of person-centered care practices, 2) recognition of the value of the direct care worker, and 3) assurance of access to care and quality of care in long-term care settings.

In 2005, the CWG laid out ten recommendations. One called for the implementation of a standardized, uniform, and universal training curriculum for the direct care workforce. Complimentary specialty modules would include skills and knowledge to work with the elderly and individuals with physical disabilities, developmental disabilities, dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease, and behavioral health disease.

With the continued support of Governor Napolitano, the CWG is currently serving as the Core Curriculum and Expansion Committee of the Interagency Council on Long-Term Care (IACLTC) to further develop and disseminate the core curriculum and modules statewide. The committee will oversee the development of additional modules, create a quality assurance component, monitor implementation throughout Arizona and continue to develop additional recommendations to ensure success of the direct care professional and the quality of care in our communities.

Special thanks to Dick White of Valley Interfaith Project and Kathleen Collins Pagels of Arizona Health Care Association, who have diligently co-chaired these work groups. In addition, we owe special thanks to the agencies that developed the training curriculum, including Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL), Foundation for Senior Living (FSL), AIRES, the Children and Family Alliance, and the Alzheimer's Association – Desert Southwest Chapter. Funding for the Direct Care Curriculum Project was provided by the Department of Economic Security, Division of Aging, and the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities.